



Holpe

PORTRAIT  
OF  
AN  
ARTIST

# NICHOLAS VOLPE

Son of an Italian immigrant family, Nicholas Volpe was born in the New England community of New Haven, Connecticut. Because he showed an exceptional talent with the violin, his parents sent him to study in Italy. Homesick for America, he soon returned to continue his formal education.

The husky Mr. Volpe entered New York's *Syracuse University* on a football scholarship. There his talent as an artist began to blossom. Rather than accept a *Syracuse* professorship upon graduation, he considered he had much more to learn. He entered and won the coveted *Tiffany Foundation Art Scholarship Award* for which thousands compete and only six are victorious. As part of the award, Mr. Volpe moved to the famed silversmith's baronial estate on Long Island to pursue his art work in seclusion among the varied resplendent land and seascapes.

Flourishing in all media of his work, Mr. Volpe eventually became an instructor of fine arts at New York City's *Leonardo da Vinci Art School* where he transported his ideas and conceptions of depth and creative interpretation to enthusiastic students there.

Two years later Mr. Volpe accepted the post of *Dean of Arts at Jacksonville College* in Florida. This lasted three years until he migrated to Hollywood where he had been commissioned to design sets, create makeup and fashion costumes for many motion pictures. But it was Nicholas Volpe's powerful portraits of that industry's leading personalities which formed an unassailable reputation for this dedicated artist. He painted Clark Gable, Tyrone Power, Bette Davis, Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Frederic March, Bing Crosby, Jennifer Jones. You hadn't arrived until Nicholas Volpe had painted your portrait.

When Mr. Volpe received a lifetime contract by the *Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences* to execute portraits each year of the actor and actress awarded that institution's Academy Award ("*Oscar*"), he made Southern California his home. Here he raised his three children.

Mr. Volpe was awarded the record industry's *Golden Grammy Award* for the cover he designed for the Frank Sinatra album, *Only the Lonely*. This led to a commission from the *Hollywood Brown Derby* to paint nearly 200 of the nation's top recording artists for its *Hall of Fame Record Room*.

A former athlete himself, Mr. Volpe possesses the gift to capture, on canvas, the physical drive frozen in action of a myriad of the world's leading sports figures.

Considered one of today's leading masters of the pastel portrait, Mr. Volpe has rendered the likenesses of members of the *Los Angeles Dodgers National League* baseball team for several years. He has also painted the stars of many other major league baseball, football, basketball and hockey teams.

In conjunction with his Sports Figures Portraits, Mr. Volpe has conducted numerous major cross-country tours of television, radio and live personal appearances.

A poet and author of note, Mr. Volpe is popularly known for his *Byways*, a *Hearst Syndicate* newspaper feature series for many years. Here he sketches and writes about places of interest in the State of California. Below these renderings, he writes descriptive verse what an artist might be thinking as he draws the countryside.

During his distinguished career, Mr. Volpe has completed portrait commissions of the late President John F. Kennedy, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, California Governor Ronald Reagan, and traveled to Israel to create a heroic oil portrait of that country's then Premier David Ben Gurion.

In 1973, Mr. Volpe became associated with Southern California's Pepperdine University Malibu Campus where he taught art in all forms. His first one man show at this institution of learning was a series of twenty-four *Frank Sinatra Sits* studies, a superior collection depicting different characters the actor has portrayed during his screen career.

In 1974, Mr. and Mrs. Volpe made their first trip through Mexico. Volpe fell in love with Mexico and for the past three years they have traveled over ten thousand miles, via motorhome gathering material and learning about Mexico, the Yucatan, Baja California and the people. The artist's love and deep feelings for the beauty of Mexico and character of its people are expressed in hundreds of oil paintings, pastel and charcoal drawings and sketches which are to be published with bi-lingual prose-poetry; sensitive musings and observations of selected works of the artist. The book is tentatively entitled "FACES AND PLACES de MEXICO".

Now in the planning stage is a series of one-man shows to tour throughout Mexico, United States, Canada, "perhaps the world", says Volpe adding, "communicating a dream, bringing a glorious feast to other eyes - an Italo-American's point of view of a country so rich in color, tradition, customs.



Life-size oil portrait of  
James R. Hoffa.



Palette-knife oil of Mission Santa Barbara. The first of a series  
of California missions by Volpe.



**NORMAN A. VULPÉ** was born in the New England city of New Haven, Connecticut. His desire was to become a painter and internationally celebrated artist. Now Mr. Vulpé's paintings are enhancing the walls of many public institutions, distinguished and well known restaurants and the houses of Hollywood stars, major political and business figures and heads of state.

Vulpé graduated from Syracuse University with highest honors and upon graduation received a professorship at Syracuse to

accept the Tiffany Foundation Scholarship at Oyster Bay, Long Island. It was during this time that Vulpé's creative and philosophical mind kept directing him towards the goal—a depiction of man in his paintings and a real contribution to the arts of America. For two years Mr. Vulpé was an instructor of Fine Arts at the Leonardo da Vinci Art School in New York City.

Jacksonville College had the honor of hiring Mr. Vulpé to teach and then in Arts for three years. Upon leaving Florida he made his way to Hollywood, California, where he was to add to his career as a Production Designer for some of Hollywood's biggest films and with his life portraits of the motion picture industry leading personages.

Vulpé has shown and painted some Hollywood stars than any other artist. He has a lifetime contract to do portraits of the annual Academy Award winners, for the best performance of an actor and actress. These portraits began with the 1928 winners through to the current winners are on display at the Beverly Hills Elstree Hotel.

Vulpé was and was presented with the annual industry's Golden Grammy Award for the cover design of the Frank Sinatra Capitol album "Silly The Lovers."

Mr. Robert Cobb of the famed Hollywood Brown Derby selected Vulpé to paint 127 top recording artists for his "Hall of Fame" Record Room, for his lifelong willing recording artists.

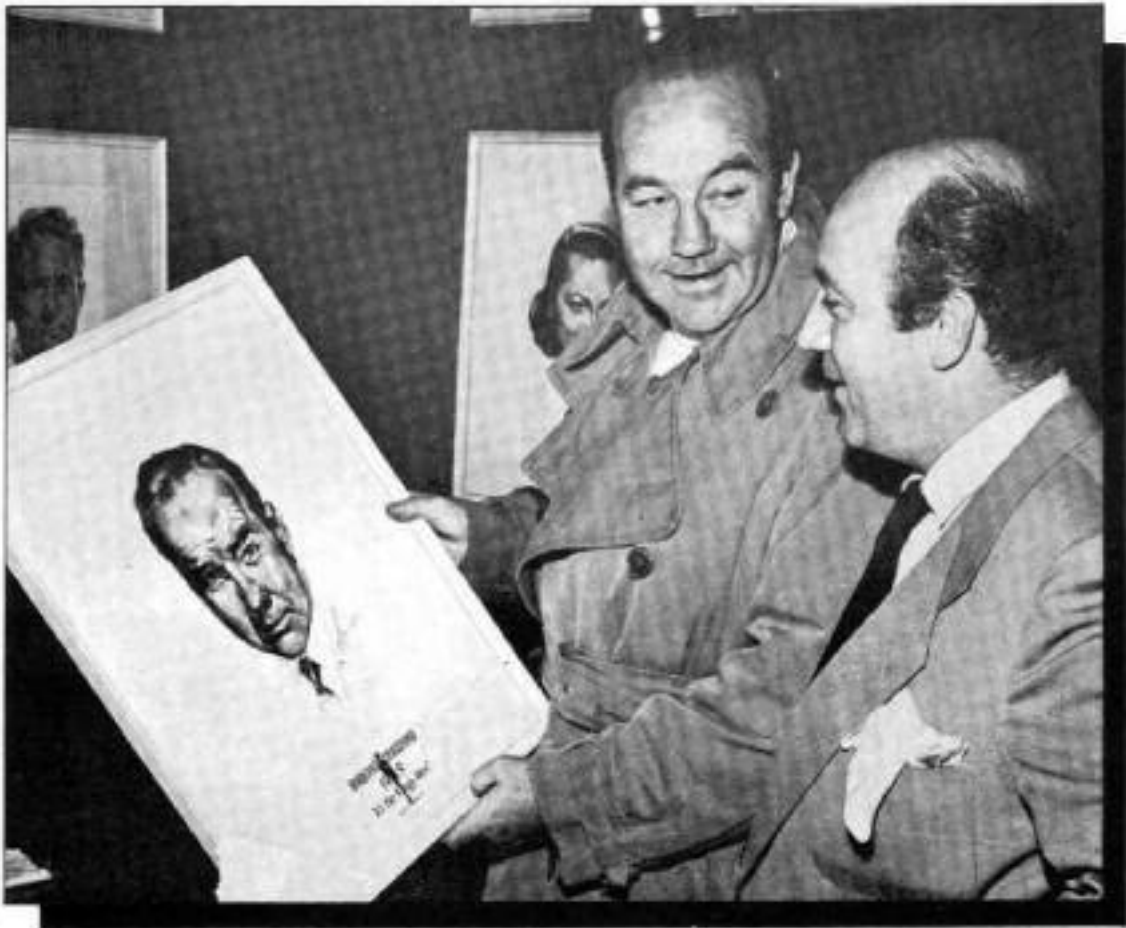
Vulpé's portfolio includes portraits of the World Champion Los Angeles Dodgers Baseball Team, The Detroit Tigers, Atlanta Braves, New York Mets, Cleveland Indians, Cincinnati Reds and The St. Louis Cardinals. He has also completed commissions for portraits of John F. Kennedy, Winston Churchill, David Ben-Gurion, Ronald Reagan and other famous personages.

Vulpé has resided in New York, California, recently returned from his most successful years country home at Naples and Hollywood. He continues to contribute to the profession of the artist with his many masterpieces of life drawings and paintings and his lectures on art.

Perhaps his most well known work is his "Honey," a syndicated feature appearing in the Los Angeles Examiner, each Sunday. "Honey" is a life drawing accompanied by vignettes, some remarkable range of poses which are "experiences" of the life around us captured and remastered with utmost sensitivity and mastery.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**ACADEMY  
STARS INC.**

Last painting of great star ever made from life - Tyrone Powers as "Captain from Castile" by Volpe. Powers made his final sitting for it just prior to leaving for Spain and his untimely death.



Broderick Crawford thanking Volpe for his portrait. Mr. Crawford won the coveted "Oscar" for best portrayal by an actor, 1949 "All the Kings Men". His complete collection hangs in the famous Brown Derby in Beverly Hills. The Academy Room was created by Volpe.



Volpe has painted more portraits of the famous star, Sinatra than of any other celebrity including a full length oil which hangs in the Friars Club, Beverly Hills –Twenty four portraits depicting Sinatra in his memorable cinema roles– album cover designs, etc.





Volpe has painted all the presidents of the Screen Actors Guild. The latest, not shown, is the first woman ever to preside, now in her second term - the great actress, Kathleen Nolan.



Will Roger's son, shown holding the portrait of his famous father. One of a series of famous western stars portrayed by Volpe.



The renowned producer-director Mervin Le Roy, admiring his portrait by Volpe. Inscribed on the photograph. "For Nick, you're the best" signed Mervin Le Roy.



Letter Young

Dear Mr Volpe

I'm happy to learn that a collection of your beautiful portraits of Academy Award winners is soon to be offered to the public. Your sensitive portrayal of the award winning actors and actresses will, I assure, bring pleasure to movie fans all over the world.

May I wish you and Academy Stars the warm success in this new venture.  
Sincerely Letter Young

Volpe showing Peter Lorre and Jeanne Crain his portrait of Marlon Brando. The artist has a lifetime contract to draw the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences "Oscar" winners for the famous Brown Derby in Beverly Hills.





Volpe presenting Bob Hope  
his portrait, honoring the  
great star for being selected  
"Man of the Year"  
by WAIF.

**BOB HOPE**  
June 24, 1975

I became acquainted with actor Winchell Volpe  
long before he painted my portrait. Myson  
who has lived at the Binkley Hills Brown Derby  
has in have been awed by Volpe's overpowering  
portraits of the Academy Award "Oscar" winners  
throughout the years. As for me, I felt the  
entire glamorous history of motion pictures  
gazing down on me through the eyes of one of  
America's most gifted artists.

*Bob Hope*



Executive producers Heatter and Quigly, along with Peter Marshall, host of the successful TV show "Hollywood Squares" admire artist Nicholas Volpe's portrait of Peter Marshall.

THREE MILLION TIMES 16 TONS: Tennessee Ernie Ford (center) hangs his own portrait on the wall of the Golden Record Room at the Hollywood Brown Derby as Derby president Robert H. Cobb (left) and artist Nick Volpe look on. Ernie became "eligible" to have his portrait hang in the Record Room when his record on "Sixteen Tons" passed the million mark in sales. While artist Volpe was preparing the portrait to add to the million-record gallery, "Sixteen Tons" zoomed to nearly three million sold. The Golden Record Room was also created by Volpe.



Volpe and his four pastel portraits of the Beatles. The artist was commissioned to paint the famous foursome.

Reproductions sold in the millions.





Los Angeles Dodger manager, Walt Alston, being presented his portrait by Volpe upon Alston's retirement from baseball,



Portraits presented by Volpe to Roman Gabriel and Merlin Olsen – famous stars of the Los Angeles Rams.



Volpe, along with Jack Benny, Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, Mayor Bradley and other well known figures presenting Hank Aaron with his portrait, both at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles and at the Astrodome in Houston Texas.



Another last painting from life, of John F. Kennedy by Volpe. Soon after the beloved President of the United States met his untimely death.





VOLPE spent the summer of '57 in Isarael because he was commissioned to paint the portrait of the Premier of Israel, David Ben Gurion. Here it is being accepted by one of the dignitaries of Isarael. Mayor of Te.Aviv.



Renown poet-artist, Nicholas Volpe, presents his pastel "Presidential Portrait Sketches" to Jose Lopez Portillo the President of the Republic of Mexico.

Volpe as a sculptor. A heroic bust of Houdini with the symbolic chain and lock that the escape artist was so famous for,





1928 Emil Jannings - *La última orden*



1928 Janet Gaynor - *El séptimo cielo. Amanecer*



1929 Warner Baxter - *En el viejo Arizona*





1929 Mary Pickford - *Coqueta*





GEORGE ARLISS  
1930  
DISRAELI  
Warner Bros.

*W. L. ...*  
©1962

1930 George Arliss - *Disraeli*



NORMA SHEARER  
1930  
THE DIVORCEE  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

*Kellogg*  
©1962

1930 Norma Shearer - *La divorciada*



1931 Lionel Barrymore - *Alma libre*





MARIE DRESSLER  
1931  
MIN AND BILL  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

1931 Marie Dressler - *La fruta amarga*





1932 Frederic March - *El hombre y el monstruo*



1932 Wallace Beery - *El campeón*



1932 Helen Hayes - *El pecado de Madelón Claudet*





1933 Charles Laughton - *La vida privada de Enrique VII*





1933 Katherine Hepburn - *Gloria de un día*



1934 Clark Gable - *Sucedió una noche*





1934 Claudette Colbert - *Sucedió una noche*



1935 Victor Mclaglen - *El delator*





*Kellogg*  
©1962

BETTE DAVIS  
1935  
DANGEROUS  
Warner Bros.

1935 Bette Davis - *Dangerous*



1936 Paul Muni - *Latragedia de Louis Pasteur*



1936 Louise Rainer - *El gran Ziegfeld*





1937 Spencer Tracy - *Capitanes intrépidos*





1937 Louise Rainer - *La buena tierra*



SPENCER TRACY  
1938  
BOYS TOWN  
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

1938 Spencer Tracy - *Forja de hombres*



1938 Bette Davis - *Jezebel*





ROBERT DONAT

1939

GOODBYE, MR. CHIPS

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

*Volpe*  
©1962

1939 Robert Donat - *adiós Mr. Chips*





1939 Vivien Leigh - *Lo que el viento se llevó*



1940 James Stewart - *Historias de Filadelfia*





1940 Girger Rogers - *Espejismo de amor*



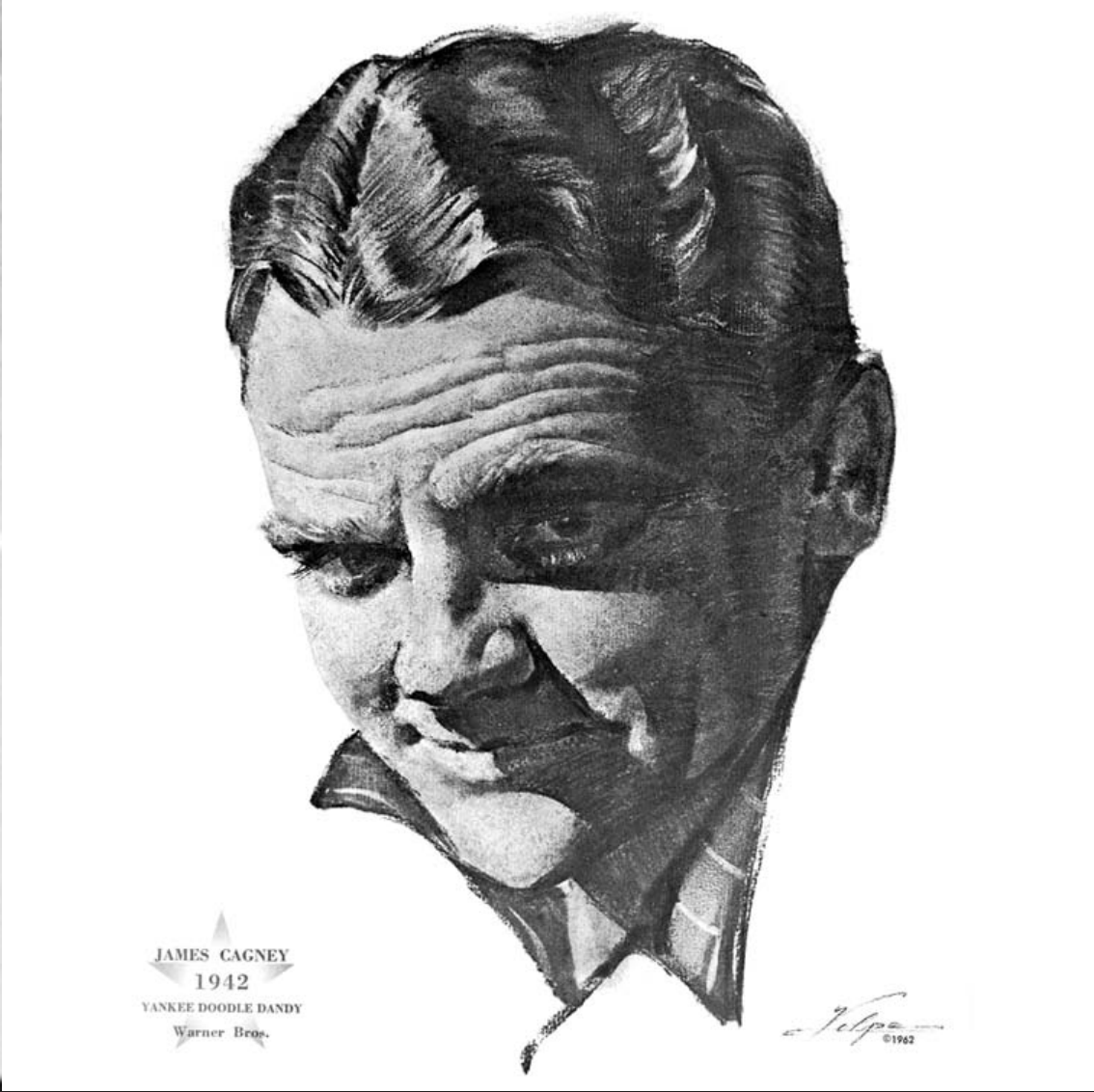


1941 Gary Cooper - *El sargento York*



1941 Joan Fontaine - *Sospecha*





1942 James Cagney - *Yanqui dandi*





1942 Greer Garson - *La señora Miniver*



1943 Paul Lukas - *Alarma en el Rhin*



1943 Jennifer Jones - *La canción de Bernardette*





1944 Bing Crosby - *Siguiendo mi camino*



1944 Ingrid Bergman - *Luz de gas*





1945 Ray Milland - *Días sin huellas*





1945 Joan Crawford - *Alma en suplicio*



1946 Frederich March - *Los mejores años de nuestra vida*





1946 Olivia de Havilland - *La vida íntima de Julia Norris*





1947 Ronald Colman - *Doble vida*



1947 Loretta Young - *Un destino de mujer*





1948 Laurence Olivier - *Hamlet*





JANE WYMAN  
1948  
JOHNNY BELINDA  
Warner Bros.

*Kelpe*  
©1962

1948 Jane Wyman - *Belinda*



1949 Broderick Crawford - *El político*



OLIVIA deHAVILLAND  
1949  
THE HEIRESS  
Paramount

*Polka*  
©1962

1949 Olivia de Havillan - *La heredera*





JOSE FERRER  
1950  
CYRANO DE BERGERAC  
Stanley Kramer

1950 José Ferrer - *Cyrano de Bergerac*



JUDY HOLLIDAY  
1950  
BORN YESTERDAY  
Columbia

*Kelpe*  
© 1962

1950 Judy Holliday - *Nacida ayer*



HUMPHREY BOGART  
1951  
THE AFRICAN QUEEN  
Horizon Enterprises

1951 Humphrey Bogart - *La Reina de África*





1951 Vivien Leigh - *Un tranvía llamado deseo*



GARY COOPER  
1952  
HIGH NOON  
Stanley Kramer

1952 Gary Cooper - *Solo ante el peligro*



1952 Shirley Booth - *Come back little Sheba*





WILLIAM HOLDEN  
1953  
STALAG 17  
Paramount

1953 William Holden - *Traidor en el infierno*



1953 Audrey Hepburn - *Vacaciones en Roma*





1954 Marlon Brando - *La ley del silencio*





1954 Grace Kelly - *La angustia de vivir*



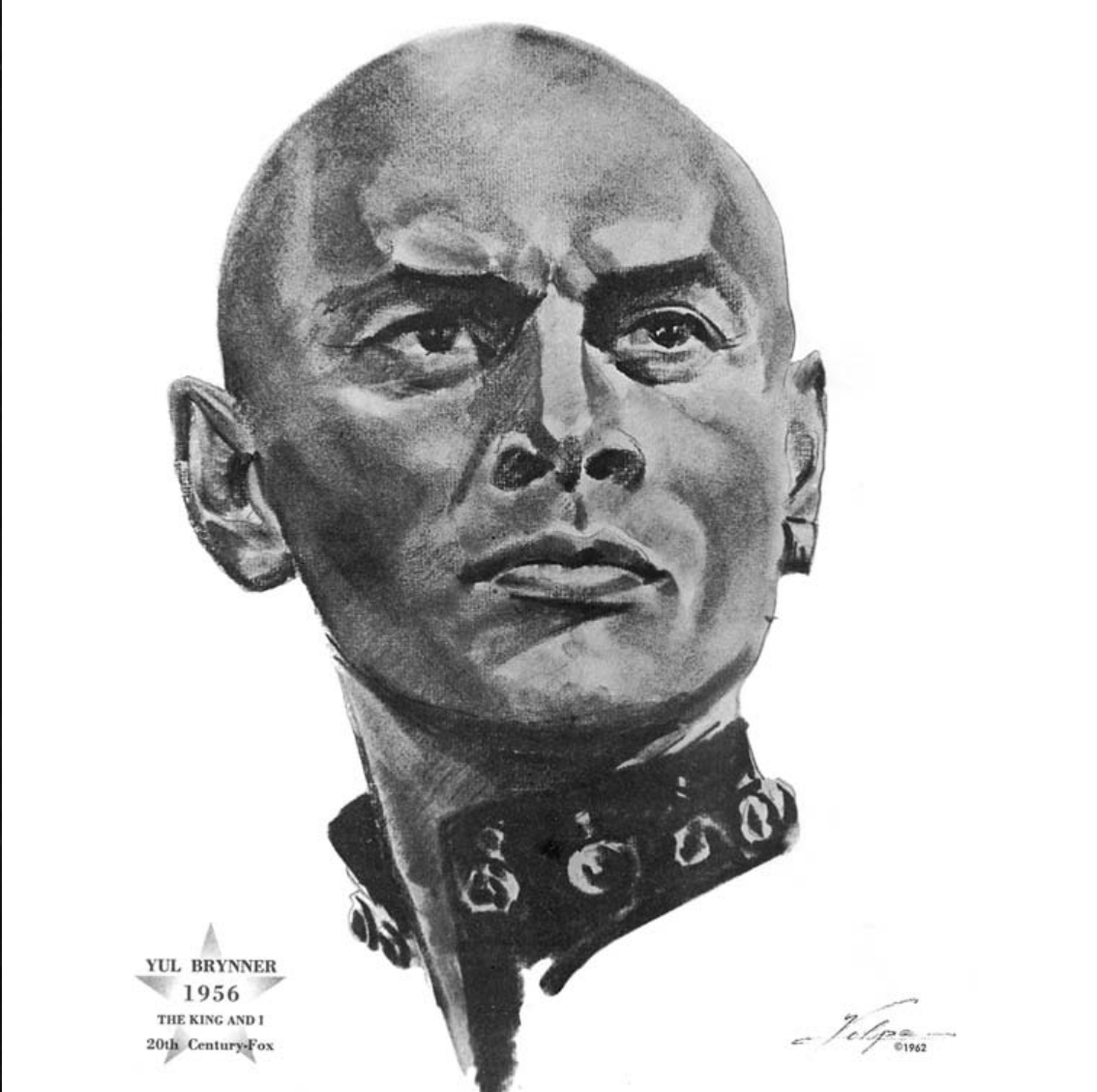
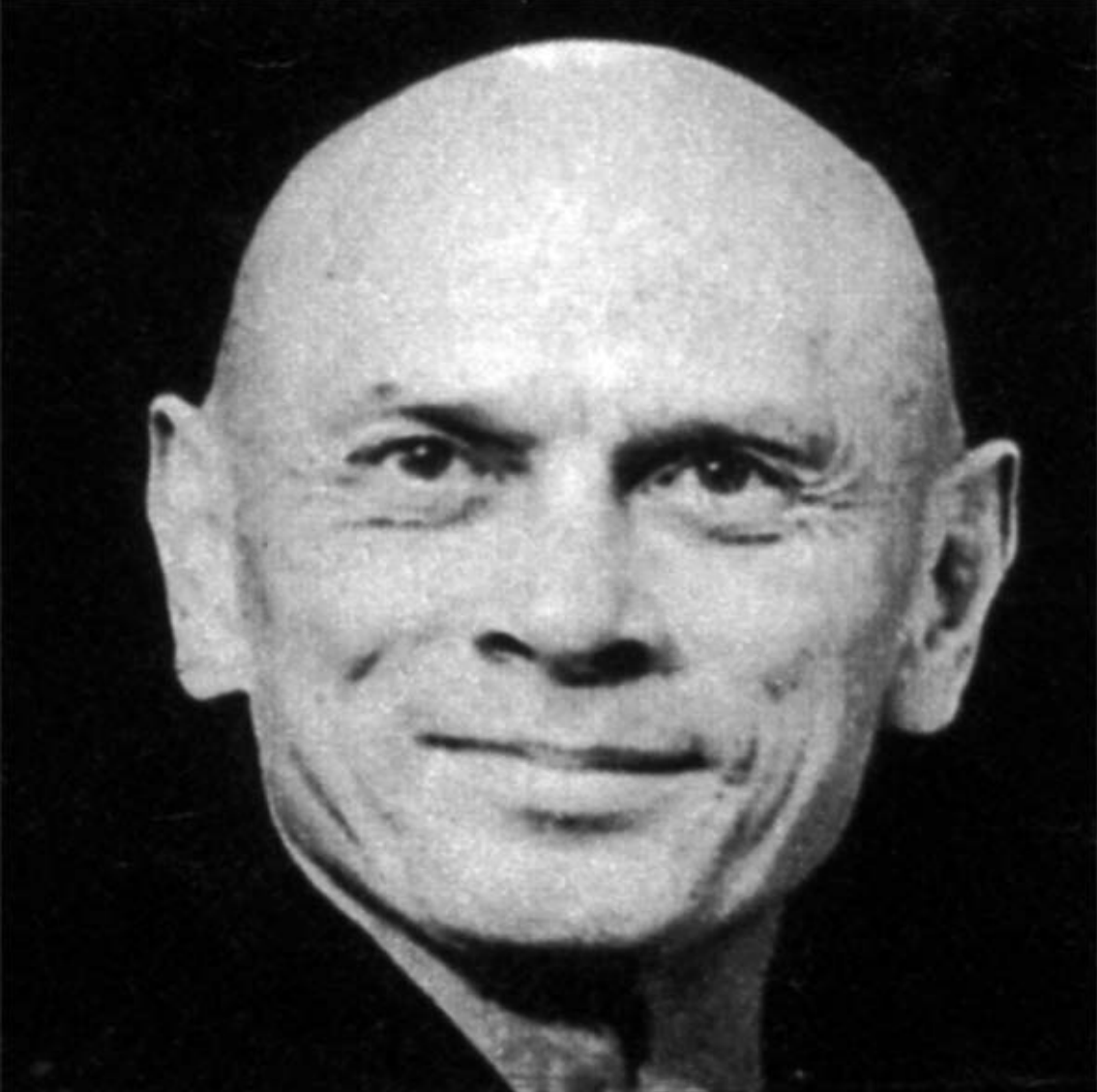
1955 Ernest Bornigne - *Marly*





1955 Anna Magnani - *La rosa tatuada*





1955 Yul Brynner - *El rey y yo*



1956 Ingrid Bergman - *Anastasia*



1957 Alec Guinness - *El puente sobre el río Kwai*





1957 Joanne Woodward - *Las tres caras de Eva*



DAVID NIVEN  
1958  
SEPARATE TABLES  
Clifton Productions

1958 David Niven - *Mesas separadas*





SUSAN HAYWARD  
1958  
I WANT TO LIVE  
Figaro

1958 Susan Hayward - ¡Quiero vivir!





1959 Charlton Heston - *Ben-Hur*



1959 Simone Signoret - *Un lugar en la cumbre*





BURT LANCASTER  
1960  
ELMER GENTRY  
Lancaster-Brooks



*Volpe*  
©1962

1960 Burt Lancaster - *El fuego y la palabra*





ELIZABETH TAYLOR  
1960  
BUTTERFIELD 8  
Afton-Linebrook

1960 Elizabeth Taylor - *Una mujer marcada*



MAXIMILIAN SCHELL  
1961  
JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG  
Stanley Kramer

1961 Maximilian Schell - *Vencedores y vencidos*





SOPHIA LOREN  
1961  
TWO WOMEN  
Champion-Lea Films

1961 Sofia Loren - *Dos mujeres*